

From: [Soring, Keith \[IRGC\]](#)
To: horsedoc2@aol.com
Subject: FW: Dr. Grandin consult
Date: Tuesday, December 02, 2014 10:09:38 AM

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From: Soring, Keith [IRGC]
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2009 2:04 PM
To: Miller, Cheryl
Cc: Barker, Jenifer V - DOA
Subject: RE: Dr. Grandin consult

Dear Dr. Grandin,

I am honored to hear from you and attempted to call but you were out. I have diligently been gathering information about kennel sizes for large breed dogs held in confinement and have consulted with humane organizations across the country, state laws, HSUS standards, etc... I believe at a minimum the cages should comply with MINIMUM HSUS standards for large breed dogs, which would be 6ft x 4ft with NO STACKING...my colleagues in the Greyhound regulatory world have agreed with my proposal (along with mandatory microchip identification from 8 weeks of age). I will send as a separate attachment a survey of cage sizes and turn out times from various jurisdictions.

I have also gathered a fair amount of literature on the feeding of RAW 4D meat and the danger of human contamination in handling the dogs that are Salmonella carriers or the raw meat itself. I have alerted the Iowa Department of Health about this practice and they are supposed to be writing a guideline for handling of the meat but did not commit to any endorsement of ending the practice legally.

I have CC'd this email to Dr. Jenifer Barker - the state veterinarian and Dairyland Greyhound Park in Wisconsin. We both share many of the same concerns about these issues and are looking for all the support we can gain going forward.

Your reputation on animal housing and welfare is unsurpassed but we are also up against an industry very reluctant to change or modernization.

Your help is most appreciated and let us know if you would like copies of the papers on 4D meat we have gathered to date.

Sincerely,

Dr. Keith Soring
Director of Racing
Iowa Racing & Gaming Commission

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-----Original Message-----

From: Miller, Cheryl [<mailto:Cheryl.Miller@ColoState.EDU>]

Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2009 11:51 AM

To: Soring, Keith [IRGC]

Subject: RE: Dr. Grandin consult

Our dog track near Fort Collins is shut down and growing weeds in the parking lot. I am appalled that dogs are being permanently housed in cages the size of airline crates. They need to be in larger kennels and dogs that live in kennels need at least one hour per day of interaction with people. I am also concerned about feeding 4D meat due to concerns that it could enter the human food chain. Please call me at 970-229-0703.

Sincerely,
Temple Grandin

From: Soring, Keith [IRGC] [Keith.Soring@iowa.gov]

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2009 9:13 AM

To: Miller, Cheryl

Cc: cgriglione@humanesociety.org

Subject: Dr. Grandin consult

Hello Dr. Grandin!

My name is Dr. Keith Soring DVM, I am the Director of Racing for the Iowa Racing & Gaming Commission. I actually met you a few years ago when you spoke at Iowa State University.

My question may be out of your field of expertise but I thought I would ask anyway. I am currently in the process of reviewing and updating our dog racing rules here in Iowa. I am especially concerned over the fact that the dogs in this industry are housed in rather small spaces and their cages are stacked upon each other. Our average crate size here is about 32" wide x 42" deep x 36" high. The average greyhound adult dog is around 70 pounds.

I have researched many state laws, codes, rules and standards for minimum kennel sizes for long term housing of large breed dogs as defined by the Humane Society of the United States. (That recommendation comes in at 6' x 4' with NO STACKING of kennels.)

The industry defends the small cage sizes by saying the dogs get turned out 4-5 times a day for 30 minutes at a time for exercise. I don't really buy into that as a veterinarian and am concerned about the stress of small confinement as well as air quality in kennels and sanitation concerns from stacking of cages. Currently we have about 72 dogs per kennel here in Iowa.

The biggest obstacle to change is of course the cost of rebuilding the kennels to the specifications I have requested and am preparing for rule implementation.

I certainly would be interested in hearing your opinion on this subject. I know Colorado has dog racing but I believe the track is currently shut down.

I have other concerns (such as the feeding of raw 4D meat) that I wish may to discuss with you if you are interested.

I greatly appreciate your valuable time in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Keith Soring
Director of Racing
Iowa Racing & Gaming Commission
515 707 2982

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